

**Hackett Community Association  
Committee meeting  
8 November 2016**

**Present –**

Committee: Greg Haughey, Kay Murphy, Jean Chesson, Terry de Luca, Chris Mobbs and Bruce Smith

Non-members: Tim Bourke, Rebecca Stockley, Darryl Coonan

Apologies: John Carty, Marian Williams

**Christian Community Presentation**

Two members of the Christian Community, the Rev. Darryl Coonan and Mr Tim Bourke (Treasurer), and Ms Rebecca Stockley (Knight Frank Canberra) attended the meeting and spoke to the proposal by the Church to change the lease on Block 9, Section 12, Holtze Close in Hackett.

Darryl and Tim gave some background about the Christian Community in Hackett:

- The Church was founded post World War 1 linked to the teachings of Rudolph Steiner.
- It has close links with the Orana Steiner School
- There are generally 10-12 adults attending services – there are no indications that it will get significantly bigger
- There are 3 service a week
- There have been no complaints from nearby residents – it is open to everyone and is non-dogmatic
- The building is sometimes used by other groups – including for meditation and yoga
- The Church operates at different times to sports, therefore there are no parking problems.

The Church took over the lease in 1998 – the Girl Guides had stopped using it in 1996. The Church is now in the process of taking over the lease and purchasing the building from the Girl Guides. However, at the time the Church took over the lease, its purpose clauses were not changed so there is no authority to have a place of worship on that site. The Church is therefore seeking a variation to the lease clause and is consulting with the HCA as a local stakeholder.

The Committee asked a number of questions about the Church and its past, and the general view was that the Church is a positive addition to the Hackett Community. It was agreed that the Committee had no objections to the proposal and appreciated the opportunity to be consulted.

Greg opened the remainder of the meeting

**Minutes and matters arising** - the Minutes for 11 October were accepted with the following amendments:

- the reference to “Tess” should read “Tess Horwitz”
- dual occupancy for “Mr Fluffy blocks” is allowed for blocks over 700m

**Treasurer’s report** – Terry reported that the current balance is \$3,015.97.

**Party at the Shops** – there was a general discussion about the Party at the Shops. The general view was that it was a great success, and worked particularly well for families with small children. It was agreed that it should be a recurring event.

We raised \$1,030.70 from the birthday party and made:

- just over \$300 on the BBQ.
- \$614 from the Raffle

- \$77 from face painting

Overall the Association came close to breaking even.

Jane Bayles did the bookshop and would be keen to do it again next year.

Every shop was happy and keen to participate in raffle. It was agreed that we would write letters to the shops to thank them for their donations.

Ari is reported to have said that it should not to happen at the same time as Octoberfest. The problem is, however, that there are major events just about every weekend.

The signs were a big success, and they are reusable in future.

**Hackett oval** – Chris reported that the Government will be in touch when they get to doing something on trees. He noted that it was also good to have made contact with the Christian Community Church and with Bluegum School.

**Community Garden** - Greg and Terry met with Shane Rattenbury about this. Bluegum school could participate. The cost of developing it would need to be met, but money could then be obtained for the lots. It was noted, however, that people in Hackett have big blocks so may have less need of a community garden.

**Parks** – Chris reported that the ACT Greens and Labor agreement mentions micro parks in urban areas and also "adopt a park". Chris will approach them about how this could work in Hackett

**Community survey** – Jean reported on the outcomes of the Community Survey which was undertaken at the Party at the Shops:

- there were 77 completed forms
- People value the reserve, shops, and community
- They are seeking improvements for toilets and playgrounds
- 49 percent were not in favour of high density
- Most people supported the residents association

Demographic results were:

- Length of time in Hackett – median of 3 years
- How many in home – median of 3
- Largest age bracket – 31-45

It was agreed that Bruce would write to the government and ask where do they stand on toilet – this is the highest support for improvement in Hackett. We should also mention the need for an electrical outlet at the shops in the same letter.

**Christmas dinner** – to be held on 13 December

**Reflections by James Walker on work of the HCA** – James had circulated a paper prior to the meeting setting out his thoughts on the work of the Association. The Committee appreciated the thought and effort which had gone into the paper, and agreed with much of it, including the need to give priority to lobbying for toilets at the shops.

There was discussion about James' suggestion that a sign at the shops should be a priority. It was felt that, while a better sign at the shops is desirable, people were not convinced that it should be the responsibility of the HCA – it possibly should be the shopkeepers who take the lead on this. It was noted that, at the Cook shopping centre, shopkeepers have got together to undertake initiatives like this.

It was proposed that we need to engage shopkeepers in a broader Hackett push. In our letter thanking them, we should say that we are looking forward to working with them in future and would

be interested in other suggestions they may have in ideas for improvements (such as food tastings and live music)

There was discussion about whether there has been study of successful shopping centres - Chris agreed to will look to see if there has been research in that area.

Other points in the discussion included:

- agree with James that it is always important to say thank you
- we need to keep on looking at initiatives to increase membership, noting that participation can be very difficult for younger families
- Do we need to just have one website? Possibly HCA should be subset of broader Hackett website
- Our most effective communication tool is Neighbourhood Watch

Meeting closed at 9.25

<b>Agreed actions</b>	<b>Status</b>
Bruce to write to Government: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• thanking them for path to shops</li><li>• asking about toilets at shops</li><li>• asking about electrical outlet at shops</li></ul>	
Greg to write to shops: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• thanking them for donations and other contributions to Party at Shops</li><li>• stating that we are looking forward to working with them</li><li>• asking them for suggestions for improvements and joint actions with HCA</li></ul>	
Chris to approach ACT Government to find out how “micro parks” in urban areas and “adopt-a-park” could work in Hackett	